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ONTARIO
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

MEMORANDUM

FOR PRINCIPALS AND INSPECTORS

— *RE* —

A Course in Canadian Civics

The Minister of Education announces that provision is being made for the teaching of a course in Canadian Civics in the Fourth and Fifth Form classes of the Public and Separate Schools of the Province and in the Lower School classes of the High, Vocational, and Continuation Schools. A Reader outlining the growth of public services and the development of the present structure of government in the Dominion, the Provinces, and the local municipalities and setting forth the obligations of citizenship, has been prepared, and will be available for the use of the schools about October 1st, 1935. The aim of this course in Canadian Civics is to acquaint pupils, early in their school life, with the principles underlying forms of government, and to make them familiar with the operations of the several branches of public administration, to the end that they may become intelligent and useful citizens.

The Reader is entitled, *A Reader in Canadian Civics*, and is divided into three parts:. Part I for use in Fourth Form classes of the Public and Separate Schools, and Parts II and III for use in Fifth Form classes of the Public and Separate Schools, and Lower School classes of the High, Vocational, and Continuation Schools.

It is the desire of the Minister that a large measure of discretion be allowed teachers in the method of presentation of this course of study. In the High, Vocational, and Continuation Schools the subject is to be additional to the eight subjects that may be taught each year under the High School Regulations. . It is suggested that in Fifth Form and Lower School classes the subject be taught in the senior division of the Fifth Form and in either the first or second year of the Lower School. As the subject is developed historically in the Reader, it is suggested that the course be taught by the teacher of History.

It is expected that two teaching periods a week throughout the year will be sufficient to complete the course, but as the book will be late in reaching the schools this fall, the Principal may find it preferable, in order not to interfere with the time-table of the present term, to postpone the course until after Christmas and then carry it on for three periods a week for the balance of the year.

While Civics will not be a subject of the Departmental examinations, the course in this subject is obligatory on all pupils.

TORONTO, September 16th, 1935.